

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 00274 01 OF 02 112302Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-05 PC-05 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 /073 W

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O R 112115Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 QUITO 0274

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MORG, EC

SUBJECT: RESIGNATION MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA

REF: A) QUITO 0260 B) QUITO 0266 C) QUITO 0267

1. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA'S
RESIGNATION MESSAGE ISSUED EARLY ON THE MORNING OF JAN. 11
FOLLOWS BELOW:

2. RESIGNATION MESSAGE OF GENERAL RODRIGUEZ LARA

TO THE ECUADOREAN PEOPLE AND TO THE NATIONAL ARMED
FORCES: BY MY OWN DECISION, WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST MILITARY
PRESSURE, MINDFUL ONLY OF THE PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES IN
THE COUNTRY, I INFORMED FOUR DAYS AGO THE SERVICE COMMANDERS
AND THE GENERALS OF THE REPUBLIC IN ACTIVE SERVICE OF MY
RESOLUTION TO RESIGN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE
REPUBLIC, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME WITH FULL POWERS FEB. 16,
1972.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 QUITO 00274 01 OF 02 112302Z

WITH A SPIRIT THAT IS UNCHANGED, WITH THE SAME FAITH

IN THE REVOLUTIONARY FUTURE WE ARE PLANNING, UNDER PRINCIPLES THAT ARE NATIONALISTIC AND AUTHENTICALLY DEMOCRATIC, AFTER ALMOST FOUR YEARS OF FERVENT HONORABLE WORK DEDICATED TO THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF MY FATHERLAND, I BELIEVE A NEW PERSONAL RESPONSE HAS BECOME INDISPENSABLE FOR THOSE WHO MUST DISCHARGE THE TASKS OF GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE NATIONALIST REVOLUTION, WHOSE IDEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS AND GOALS OF DEVELOPMENT HAVE THE UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PUBLIC IN ECUADOR.

I HAVE REQUESTED RELIEF FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE MISSION WHICH WAS ENTRUSTED TO ME BECAUSE I AM SURE THAT A NEW WILLINGNESS TO SERVE MUST REPLACE ME, WHICH WILL HAVE CONTINUED DYNAMISM AND EQUAL MISTIQUE TOWARD TRANSFORMATION UNTIL THE ARMED FORCES CAN ACHIEVE THE CREATION OF LEGAL INSTITUTIONS, ORIGINATING IN THE MOST SINCERE AND OBJECTIVE POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY, AND WHICH GUARANTEE THE SURVIVAL OF A CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM ACTIVELY DIRECTED TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AND TO PEACE.

A PEACEFUL MAN, SPIRITUALLY REMOTE FROM SECTARIAN, VENGEFUL OR DOMINATING PASSIONS, I TAKE WITH ME FROM THIS EXPERIENCE AN IMMENSE LOVE OF THE ECUADOREAN PEOPLE, A PEOPLE THAT SUFFERS, THAT HAS FRATERNAL HANDS READY FOR HELP THAT IS DISINTERESTED AND SINCERE. NOT EVEN IN THE DRAMATIC PASSIONS OF THIS EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE CAN BE SEEN ANY DESTRUCTIVE OR ANTIHUMAN VIRUS. TERRORISM, CRIMINALITY WHICH OBEYS HATRED AND AMBITION, IS ABSENT IN OUR SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED IN OUR COUNTRY. THE FEW OUTBREAKS OF COWARDLY AND ANONYMOUS ATTACK, AMBUSHES IN THE DARK, ONLY ARE FOUND AMONG THOSE REMAINING POLITICAL GROUPS THAT ARE ACCUSTOMED TO CORRUPTING WITH MONEY AND TO CONSTRUCTING THE OPPOSITE OF DEMOCRACY, WITH WHICH THEY MASK THEMSELVES. FORTUNATELY THEIR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN MISERY AND IGNORANCE AS INSTRUMENTS OF DOMINATION DO NOT PROGRESS; AND VARIOUS GROUPS GROW IN CONSCIENCE, AND THEIR VOICES INCREASINGLY DOMINATE THE UNIVERSAL SCENE AS IT MOVES TOWARD DISTINCT STATES OF EQUALITY AND JUSTICE.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 QUITO 00274 01 OF 02 112302Z

IN THIS DECISIVE MOMENT FOR ECUADOREAN HISTORY, THE ARMED FORCES OF ECUADOR MUST KEEP IN MIND, AS AN UNVARYING POINT OF REFERENCE, THE FACT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE REPUBLICAN PROCESS THEY HAVE IN THEIR HANDS THE FACTORS FAVORABLE TO MAKE UP FOR THE REPEATED EPISODES OF POLITICAL INTERVENTION DURING WHICH THE ARMED FORCES WERE LAMENTABLY INSTRUMENTS OF PRESSURE GROUPS, OF OPPORTUNISTIC AND PSEUDO-DEMOCRATIC EMPRESARIOS; WHO AFTER

UTILIZING THE PATRIOTIC IDEALISM WHICH CHARACTERIZES THE SOLDIER, DID NOT HESITATE TO PLACE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES ON THEIR SHOULDERS AND ACCUSE THEM (SOLDIERS) OF ALL THE ERRORS. TODAY WE HAVE A BODY OF GOVERNING PRINCIPLES OF CLEAN REPUBLICAN STOCK, WE HAVE FORMULATED PLANS OF UN-DENIABLE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC VALIDITY AND WE HAVE BEGUN A STAGE OF PLANNING, OF INTEGRATION, OF NATIONAL PRIORITIES OF UNITY OF THE COUNTRY AND THE NATION. WE HAVE FINANCIAL RESOURCES GREATER THAN IN OTHER ERAS, BUT NEVER ENOUGH TO MATCH THE GROWTH OF THE POPULATION AND THE NEEDS THAT INCREASE IN UNUSUAL PROPORTION. COMPLETED PROGRAMS AND BASIC WORKS, WHOSE LEVEL IN FOUR YEARS GREATLY SURPASSES THOSE THE STATE ACHIEVED IN THE 25 YEARS BEFORE, TESTIFY TO THE WORK DONE AND EXPLAIN TO CLEAR MINDS, TO THOSE WHO ARE CAPABLE OF UNDERSTANDING, THAT GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES HAVE BEEN USED COMPLETELY TO THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE.

I THINK THAT THERE WAS ALREADY PREVAILING IN THE REPUBLIC AN EAGERNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS TOWARD INSTITUTIONALIZATION, GIVING WAY TO THE SUPREME NEED FOR CHANGES IN THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE, WHICH THE WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS HAVE STATED IN MAGISTRAL AND RESPECTABLE FASHION. BY THE SAME TOKEN, THE ARMED FORCES MUST KEEP THEIR PROMISE AND LEAVE THE STAGE OF POWER WITHOUT DANGER OF BEING REPLACED BY THE SEDITIOUS PREPONDERANCE OF THOSE OBSESSED BY THE RETURN TO THE POLITICAL ORGY THAT PARALYZED THE REPUBLIC FOR A CENTURY AND A HALF. THE COMMANDERS, OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS CANNOT LEND THEMSELVES TO THE SHAME OF AN EXPULSION THAT WOULD INTERRUPT THEIR TASK, THAT WOULD MUTILATE THEIR HOPES, WHICH ARE HOPES OF THE PEOPLE, THAT WOULD TRUNCATE PROGRAMS UNDER-

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 QUITO 00274 01 OF 02 112302Z

WAY, THAT WOULD DELAY THE PROCESS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE -- WHICH WE COULD SHOW TO BE FITTING TO THE CHARACTER OF THE ECUADOREAN NATION -- TO A LEVEL OF LIBERTY AND TRANSFORMING POWERS THAT DO HONOR TO ITS HISTORY AND DO NOT SELL THE PERSONALITY OF ECUADOR ON THE AUCTION OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL INTERESTS.

NEVER AS TODAY WAS THE ATTITUDE OF THOSE AGAINST CHANGE MORE IRRITATING. THEY HAVE EXHAUSTED EVERY FALSE RESOURCE AND IMMORAL STATEMENTS TO PROVOKE PANIC AND TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF A COUNTRY IN THE DISASTROUS CONDITION OF GENERAL BANKRUPTCY. THE REALITY IS THE OPPOSITE OF THIS DESTRUCTIVE EFFORT. I AM PLEASED TO TURN OVER A NATION WHOSE BASIC INDICATORS, ESPECIALLY IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, ARE TO A GREAT DEGREE OPTIMISTIC, AND HAVE BEEN

ACHIEVED SOUNDLY AND SCIENTIFICALLY: A MONETARY RESERVE IN
FULL FLOWER, APPRECIABLE AND PROGRESSIVE DECREASE OF THE
INFLATIONARY CURVE DESPITE ALMOST UNCONTROLLABLE IN-
TERNATIONAL INFLATIONARY PRESSURES, FLOURISHING BUSINESSES,
A VIGOROUS LEVEL OF PERSONAL SAVINGS, INVESTMENTS OF AN
UNPRECEDENTED SIZE, GENERAL CONFIDENCE IN THE BUSINESS
CLIMATE, FOREIGN PRESTIGE FOR THE REPUBLIC, NOTABLE

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PAGE 01 QUITO 00274 02 OF 02 112220Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

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AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 QUITO 0274

INCREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF KEY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS,
INCREASES IN SOURCES OF EMPLOYMENT, AND UNDENIABLE GROWTH
IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MARGINAL AND SEMI-
MARGINAL MAJORITIES.

THE PEOPLE NOW KNOW THAT THEIR ENEMIES ARE THOSE WHO
HOARD VITAL COMMODITIES TO FORCE PRICE INCREASES, THOSE
WHO OPPOSE SOCIALLY BENEFICIAL LAWS, THOSE WHO CHARGE
SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS AND BALANCED LEADERS INCAPABLE OF DIVERGING
FROM THE CORRECTNESS OF OUR PATH OF BEING EXTREMISTS.

A FAMILY FROM THE COMMON PEOPLE HAVE LIVED IN THE
PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, WITHOUT GROWING PROUD OR DEVIATING
FROM CHRISTIAN AND FAMILY PRINCIPLES, A FAMILY WHICH HAS

OPENED ITS EYES TO SOCIAL INJUSTICE THAT TRADITIONAL

POLITICIANS COMPLETELY IGNORED, A FAMILY THAT HAS TRIED TO
OPEN THE WAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED AND SUFFER. THE PALACE
IS A LABORATORY OF IMMENSE POSSIBILITIES AND IDEAS. WITH
MY WIFE AND CHILDREN WE HAVE PRACTICED HERE, IN THIS POWER-
FUL SUMMIT, THE SAME VIRTUES OF BROTHERHOOD THAT WE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 QUITO 00274 02 OF 02 112220Z

LEARNED IN THE VILLAGE CHURCH. AND WE WILL RETURN TO PRIVATE
LIFE, WITHOUT BITTERNESS, WITHOUT FRUSTRATION, WITHOUT
NEGATIVE FEELINGS, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS WITH SADNESS FROM
AWARENESS OF HUMAN LIMITATIONS, BUT SECURE IN THE KNOW-
LEDGE THAT WE HAVE RESPONDED TO THE IMPERATIVES OF PERSONAL
HONOR AND AUSTERITY WHICH ALLOWS US TO SHOW OUR HANDS
ALWAYS CLEAN, HEAD HELD HIGH, A SOUL CONTENT IN THE
KNOWLEDGE OF BEING ABLE TO EXPLAIN AT ANY TIME ITS CONDUCT,
WITH THE SECURITY OF BEING INVULNERABLE TO ANY ACCUSATION.

WE WILL RETURN TO OUR NATIVE VILLAGE -- THE BASE OF
THAT WHICH IS ECUADOREAN, THE VITAL CENTER OF THE PEOPLE,
GLAD NEVER TO HAVE TO HIDE OURSELVES FROM ANY EXAMINATION.

TO MY FRIENDS AND COMPATRIOTS, OF ALL LEVELS, I MAKE
KNOWN MY CONVICTION THAT I HAVE HONORED THE UNIFORM AND
THE INSIGNIAS OF COMMAND THAT WERE HANDED OVER TO ME IN
THE MILITARY COLLEGE, AND MY CONFIDENCE THAT THOSE WHO RE-
MAIN IN THE RANK AND FILE WILL KNOW HOW TO REFLECT HONOR ON
THE INSTITUTION, AND THUS MAKE GREATER ECUADOR.

GUILLERMO A. RODRIGUEZ LARA
GENERAL OF DIVISION
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
HEMENWAY

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TAGS: PINT, MORG, EC, (RODRIGUEZ LARA, GUILLERMO A)
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